

REVIEWED.

12 November 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD:

SUBJECT: Discussion with Walter L. Pforzheimer

REF : Memo for DD/A, subject - Proposed CIA Building,
dtd 19 Nov 54

QA/QC
11/25/00 -
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1. Referent memorandum carried a reference to a discussion held by the DCI and Mr. Pforzheimer with Chairman Russell, of the Senate Armed Services Committee, on 29 August 1951. In related research it was not possible for the Building Planning Staff (BPS) to unearth confirming information on this discussion, and it appeared that the date 1951 may have reflected a typographical error.

2. Mr. Pforzheimer advised me that his memorandum was not in error; the meeting was held on 29 August 1951. He added that this meeting was part of an early effort to obtain congressional approval for a building for the Agency. This amounted to a 38 million dollar construction item included in the Air Force budgetary submission to Congress. The effort was made on the initiative of the DCI, General Walter B. Smith.

3. According to Mr. Pforzheimer, the decision to go forward with this request was made late in the budget year. Therefore, reactions were hasty, and the CIA went forward ill-prepared. Walter R. Wolf, DD/A, arranged for an outside architectural firm to prepare an artist's rendering for use in discussions with Congress. Before it was used, it was shown to General Smith, who stated that at least his office was going to have a window, and he drew one in.


4. The proposal called for construction of the CIA Building on the Nevius tract - in the vicinity of the present Iwo Jima statue and the hill above. As Mr. Pforzheimer recalls, this tract included approximately 25 acres. The concern of Senator Byrd over having another government agency located in Virginia near the District was based on the resultant tax losses from the land so used. He agreed, however, not to oppose the CIA request. Decentralization and atomic blast effects were both discussed at this time with the Senate Armed Services Committee.

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5. Mr. Pforzheimer advised that he still held in his possession a box of documents having to do with Agency/Congress activities during the preparation for and construction of the present Headquarters Building and related work. He will be pleased to make this box available for BPS examination for any material which might be of help to our present building planning program. He added that a set of lines of inquiry, which might be forthcoming during congressional sessions, was developed. These, with the necessary related information, were compiled in a large black book which was held in the Office of Logistics after the hearings. Mr. Pforzheimer is of the opinion that the contents of this book would be most helpful in planning the submission to Congress of any future construction requests.


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Chief
Building Planning Staff, OL

Distribution:

Orig - Attached to memo dtd 19 Nov 54, subject, Proposed CIA Building (Old BPS Files) *(File 19)*
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